

North American Conference on British Studies
Executive Committee Meeting
Portland, Oregon
Wednesday, 22 October 2003
4:00-7:00pm

Attendance: Martin Wiener (President), Linda Peck (Past President), Phil Harling (Executive Secretary), Douglas M. Haynes (Associate Executive Secretary), and Cynthia Herrup (in-Coming President), and Guest-Bill Lubenow (in-coming Vice President).

Meeting called to order 4:14pm.

1. Announcements:

President Wiener presented Bill Lubenow, (in-coming Vice President-Elect) to the Executive Committee.

Peter Hansen stepping down as Web-Master, but EC is still waiting for response from announcement posted on NACBS web-site. Will solicit a replacement, such as Newton Key or Eric Carlson (Dartmouth College).

2. Approval of Minutes of the NACBS of October 2002

Linda Peck moved to accept the Minutes as Written; seconded by Phil Harling. Carried unanimously.

Linda Peck moved to accept the Council Minutes as Written. Seconded by Cynthia Herrup. Carried unanimously.

3. Discussion of Treasurer's Report (Lopatin-Lummis). Held over until 10/23 due to travel delay.

4. Discussion of Future Meetings at Philadelphia, Denver and Boston. Cynthia Herrup reported that Philadelphia is the venue for the 2004 NACBS meeting. Denver the NACBS will be held in Denver. Boston will serve as the venue for 2006 based on past success and range of Logan Airport. Hotel Sonesta, Boston (Cambridge) will be conference venue as in 1999. \$132.00 per night is the quoted price per room, but must take place a week before Thanksgiving. Linda Peck move adoption of Sonesta; Phil Harling seconded. Carried unanimously.

Royal History Society meeting, scheduled for 4-6 July 2004 in North England. NACBS co-sponsored, but will provide no funding. Will post announcement of the conference on NACBS web-site.

5. Discussion of Elections Results. Phil Harling reported Bill Lubenow elected as Vice President; Margaret Hunt replaced Eric Carlson on the Council ; Turn out 19% (3% higher than last year), totally web-based and some paper. Chicago University Press

charges an additional fee for paper ballots. At some point membership will have to rely solely on the web.

6. Discussions of Reports:

a) *British Studies Intelligencer* Web-Site. Gail Savage, editor, wants to add photos to the site newsletter. Linda Peck recommends that the Council be asked to consider requests for suggestions for new features to BSI. BSI should not duplicate with the NACBS site. Martin Wiener suggested posting a call on the NACBS site for professional information, i. e, new books, articles, appointments, teaching strategies, for posting on the BSI site via e-mail.

b) Webmaster. Peter Hansen suggests Executive Committee consider modest budget for a redesign for the NACBS site. Hold over until replacement webmaster is found. Linda Peck believes that Peter Hansen be recognized for his services to the NACBS at Council meeting.

c) Program Committee. Linda Peck suggested that future reports determine how many participants are members of the NACBS and whether or not the participants are registered. Cynthia Herrup (in-coming President) will ask Seth Koven (Chair of the Program Committee) about Linda Peck's queries. With the membership directory on the NACBS web-site it might be slightly easier to check membership standing of prospective panelists.

5. New Committee Members. Cynthia Herrup (in-coming President) reported that Roster for NACBS Standing Committees and their membership. (See hand-out). The chair reported that the committee is very balanced both by region and institution. All chairs are aware of their charges.

6. Announcement of Prize and Fellowship Recipients. Phil Harling (Executive Secretary) announced the prize and fellowship recipients. (See hand-out). The NACBS adjusted prize money in light of the withdrawal of participation of the British Council from prize/fellowships.

7. British Studies Essay Contest. Martin Wiener (President) reported that the contest continues to work out very well. British Council continued support for two years. Martin Wiener recommended a resolution to thank Chair Bob Tittler and his committee for their energy and success to develop this essay prize competition. It was adopted unanimously.

8. New Business:

a) Kari Roane, University of Chicago Press representative, invited to join Executive Committee meeting and discuss UCP relationship with the NACBS. Provided a document that described increase in institutional rates in future (\$.134.00 for a subscription)-- \$12.00. (See hand out). Martin Wiener (President) pointed out discrepancy between membership and listing on the web-site. Kari Roane believes that

members are given the option to “opt out” of the electronic directory. Removal of “opt-out” line on membership renewal form will permit for a more accurate relationship between directory and membership. Kari Roane will follow up with this adjustment to the renewal form. Circulation appears stable for JBS/NACBS. Press will e-mail members to renew. Linda Peck raised concerns about inaccurate language in the NACBS brochure proofs and renewal cover letter. Insisted that all future brochures and other NACBS material will be vetted by the President. Kari Roane will address this matter to prevent future occurrences. Marketing Plan. UCP will push usage of the JBS, including the electronic forms, by institutional subscribers. Linda Peck suggested that JBS be displayed at the annual Anglo-American July conference and swamping advertisements with literary and other history journals. (See list of journals on page 25 of CUP Marketing Report).

b) JBS Editors report. James Epstein and Nick Rogers (co-editors) raised concerns about the back-log of accepted articles and their publication in a timely fashion. Premature commitment of articles on masculinity for a special issue in 2005 (based on a one day symposium at the University of Sussex) without internal peer review was found puzzling by several committee members. However, the committee recognized special issue submissions are customarily handed differently from usual submissions to JBS.

c) Albion Editors Report. (Michael Moore). Albion has \$26,000.00 balance. It is unclear if this balance belongs to NACBS or Appalachian State University. Although Michael Moore acknowledged to President Wiener that NACBS had a claim to the balance (based on the subventions of the NACBS), but left the precise dollar amount unresolved. NACBS doubled subsidy after ASU discontinued support to Albion several years ago. In a separate though related matter, Michael Moore and the Dean at ASU is interested in retaining Albion at ASU.

d) Thatcher Foundation Proposal (President Wiener). Recommends pursuing this opportunity along the lines proposed by Rachel Weil. For example, grants for innovative teaching in British History, grants to support graduate research before and after 1800, and collaborative projects between scholars and curators and archivists, etc. NACBS will of course oversee the nomination and selection of NACBS scholars should the Council votes to support pursuing the Thatcher Foundation for funding. The Foundation apparently has in the past subsidized graduate students (both working in and not in the Thatcher Papers), and graduate management training at Institute of Enterprise Studies at Cambridge University.

9. Before adjournment, President Wiener proposed to reconvene Thursday at 9:00 in Marriott restaurant for a working breakfast to discuss the Treasurer’s report.

10. Adjournment at 7:40pm.

